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PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 03327.2259-00

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:	)	
	)	
Akihiro HIKICHI et al.	)	Group Art Unit: 1771
	)	
Application No.: 09/901,722	)	Examiner: N.L. Torres-Velazquez
	)	
Filed: July 11, 2001	)	Confirmation No.: 7732
	)	
For: NON-ASBESTOS FRICTION	)	
MATERIAL	)	

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE**

This Response is filed in response to the final Office Action dated May 20, 2004.  
Prompt and favorable reconsideration of this application in view of the remarks below is respectfully requested. A current listing of claims follows on page 2.

Arguments/remarks follow the listing of claims and begin on page 4.